AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A color-image forming method in a silver halide color photographic light-sensitive material comprising a support and photographic constituent layers including at least one blue-sensitive silver halide emulsion layer containing a yellow-dye-forming coupler, at least one green-sensitive silver halide emulsion layer containing a magenta-dye-forming coupler, at least one red-sensitive silver halide emulsion layer containing a cyan-dye-forming coupler, and at least one light-insensitive hydrophilic colloid layer, which comprises the steps of:

performing image-wise exposure of the light-sensitive material cut into sheets; and

subjecting the exposed light-sensitive material sheets to photographic processing including a color development process, a bleach-fix process, a rinsing process and a drying process, while conveying the exposed light-sensitive material sheets by means of pairs of conveying rollers;

wherein the sheet conveying speed in the photographic processing being 40.0 mm/sec to 100 mm/sec;

wherein the rinsing process uses a tank structurally partitioned into a plurality of rooms with blade-form members for passing the photographic material cut into sheets through rinse solutions in a horizontal direction; and

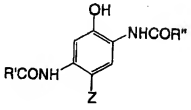
wherein the silver halide color photographic light-sensitive material to be exposed contains any one component selected from the group consisting of:

1) at least one dye-forming coupler represented by the following formula (IA),

2) at least one compound represented by the following formula (I), and

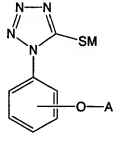
3) 1.4 mg/m^2 or more of at least one compound represented by the following formula (II);

Formula(I A)



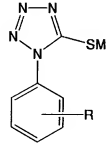
wherein, in formula (IA), R' and R" each independently represent a substituent, and Z represents a hydrogen atom, or a group capable of being split-off in a coupling reaction with an oxidized product of an aromatic primary amine color-developing agent;

Formula (I)



wherein, in formula (I), A represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group, and M represents a cation; and

Formula (II)



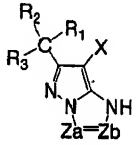
wherein, in formula (II), M represents a cation; and R represents an atom having an atomic weight of 100 or lower, or a group having a total molecular weight of 100 or lower.

2. (Original) The color-image forming method as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the silver halide color photographic light-sensitive material to be exposed contains at least one dye-forming coupler represented by the following formula (M-1) and the at least one dye-forming coupler represented by formula (IA) described above; and

wherein the color development process, the bleach-fix process and the drying process in the photographic processing are finished within 18 seconds, 18 seconds and 26 seconds, respectively;

Formula (M-I)



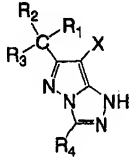
wherein, in formula (M-I), R_1, R_2, and R_3 each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent; one of Za and Zb represents a carbon atom having a hydrogen atom or a substituent, and the other represents a nitrogen atom; the substituent of Za or Zb may further have a substituent; and X represents a hydrogen atom or a group capable of being split-off upon a reaction with an oxidized product of an aromatic primary amine color-developing agent.

3. (Cancelled)

4.(Original) The color-image forming method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the conveying speed in the photographic processing is from 45.0 mm/sec to 95 mm/sec.

5. (Original) The color-image forming method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the dye-forming coupler represented by the formula (M-1) is a dye-forming coupler represented by the following formula (M-III);

Formula (M-III)



wherein, in formula (M-III), R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a substituent; and X represents a hydrogen atom or a group capable of being split-off upon a reaction with an oxidized product of an aromatic primary amine color-developing agent.

6. (Original) The color-image forming method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the hydrophilic colloid layer is a layer made up of gelatin hardened substantially with a hardener represented by the following formula (HI);

Formula (HI)

$$X^{a1}-SO_2-L-SO_2-X^{a2}$$

wherein, in formula (HI), X^{a1} and X^{a2} each represent $-CH=CH_2$ or $-CH_2CH_2Y$ independently; X^{a1} and X^{a2} may be the same or different; Y represents a group capable of being replaced with a nucleophilic group or released in the form of HY by reaction with a base; and L represents a divalent linkage group, which may be substituted.

7. – 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The color-image forming method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the silver halide color photographic light-sensitive material comprises at least one compound represented by formula (I) described above, and

wherein the silver halide color photographic light-sensitive material is processed by use of a processing machine in which conveying of the silver halide color photographic material is performed by nipping conveying with two or more pairs of conveying rollers.

13. (Previously Presented) The color-image forming method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the silver halide color photographic light-sensitive material contains a compound represented by the above formula (II) in an amount of 1.4 mg/m^2 or more, and wherein conveying of the silver halide color photographic light-sensitive material is performed by nipping conveying with two or more pairs of conveying rollers.

14. (Original) The color-image forming method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the image-wise exposure is performed using a scanning exposure method on a per-pixel exposure time setting of 1×10^{-4} second or shorter.

15. (Original) The color-image forming method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the color-development process is performed at a processing time setting of 20 seconds or below.

16. – 62. (Cancelled)